WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A safety device for the support of a pedal in a motor vehicle, with a bracket support arranged in a wall area of a splash wall or bulkhead that is noticeably deformed into a passenger compartment in the event of a vehicle head-on collision, a pedal pivot shaft of at least one swivelling pedal acting on a push rod being mounted in the bracket support, wherein the pedal pivot shaft is mounted in the bracket support in a guide extending approximately horizontally, the guide having limits in each horizontal direction; and the pedal pivot shaft in normal operation being fixed in a forward position of the guide, viewed in a forward direction of travel, and the fixing being neutralized in the event of a head-on collision.

2. The safety device according to Claim 1, wherein the fixing is neutralized by a movement of the bracket support relative to a part of the vehicle that retains a spatial position approximately unchanged even in the event of the head-on collision.

3. The safety device according to Claim 1, wherein the vehicle part retaining the spatial position unchanged in the event of the head-on collision is fixed to a body of the vehicle.

4. The safety device according to Claim 3, wherein the vehicle part fixed to the body is a cross member.

5. The safety device according to Claim 3, wherein the vehicle part fixed to the body is a dashboard cross member.

6. The safety device according to Claim 1, wherein the guide in the bracket support, extending at least approximately horizontally, has an approximate shape of an elongated hole.

7. The safety device according to Claim 1, wherein a rearward movement of the pedal pivot shaft in the guide, viewed in the forward direction of travel, in the event of the head-on collision is assisted by a spring.

8. The safety device according to Claim 1, wherein the fixing of the pedal pivot shaft is achieved by release levers fixed to a part of the vehicle that approximately retains an unchanged position in the event of the head-on collision.

9. The safety device according to Claim 8, wherein the fixing is released by movement of the pedal bracket support relative to the part of the vehicle that approximately retains the unchanged position in the event of the head-on collision.

10. The safety device according to Claim 1, wherein the fixing is released assisted by an auxiliary force.

11. The safety device according to Claim 1, wherein the pedal bracket support is formed from plastic.

12. The safety device according to Claim 1, wherein the pedal is designed as a double-shell pedal.

13. A pedal assembly with a safety device in a motor vehicle, comprising:

a bracket support being arranged in a wall area of a splash wall or bulkhead which is deformed into a passenger compartment in the event of a vehicle head-on collision,

a pedal pivot shaft of at least one swivelling pedal which acts on a push rod, said shaft being mounted in the bracket support, and

a guide extending approximately horizontally in the bracket support with limits in each horizontal direction, said shaft, in normal operation, being fixed in the guide by a fixing device,

wherein, in the event of the head-on collision, the fixing device releases the shaft in the guide and thereby the shaft is displaceable in the guide.

14. A pedal assembly according to claim 13, wherein the pedal is a brake pedal.

15. A pedal assembly according to claim 13, wherein the fixing device is connected to a relatively stationary part of the vehicle during the vehicle collision, and a relative movement between the part and the bracket support in the event of the collision releases the shaft in the guide.

16. A method of making a safety device for the support of a pedal in a motor vehicle, comprising:

arranging a bracket support in a wall area of a splashwall or bulkhead that is deformed into a passenger compartment in the event of a vehicle head-on collision, and

mounting, in the bracket support, a pedal pivot shaft of at least on swivelling pedal acting on a push rod,

wherein the pedal pivot shaft is mounted in the bracket support in a guide extending approximately horizontally, the guide having limits in each horizontal direction, and the pedal pivot shaft, in normal operation, is fixed in the guide at a forward position in a direction of travel, the fixing being neutralized in the event of the head-on collision.